Construction of new air field in U.P.

817. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to have four new air fields in Uttar Pradesh hills with a view to boost tourism;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) by when these air fields are likely to be completed; and

(d) whether Government have approached the private air taxi operators to start their services in the hill areas, if so, what is their response thereto and by when these services are likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Purchase of TU-204 aircraft

818. MISS. SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to purchase the 214 Seater TU-204 aircraft; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Development of forests in Karnataka district in Tamil Nadu

819. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are big forests with natural background by the side of Western Ghats in Kamarajar District in Tamil Nadu which can attract the tourists in a large number; and

(b) if so, whether Govednment propose to consider any programme to develop these forests to attract tourists?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Development of a tourist spot is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. However, Central Government extends financial assistance on the basis of specific project proposals received from State Governments. So far, no proposal has been received from the Government of Tamil Nadu to develop tourist facilities for attracting tourists to these forests in Kamarajar District.

Damage of "Courtallam" Tourist spot in Tamil Nadu by Cyclonic Floods

820. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that Courtallam, in Tamil Nadu, an attractive tourist spot was totally damaged during the recent cyclonic floods, that ravaged the Southern Districts of Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu has approached the Central Government for funds to repair damage;

(c) if so, what has been the response of the Central Government thereto; and

(d) whether the Central Government would call for a report from the State Government on the damage caused to Courtalam during the last cyclonic floods?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Central Government have so far sanctioned Rs. 21.9 crores to the State Government of Tamil Nadu for the whole State for flood relief. State Government of Tamil Nadu have earmarked Rs. 27 lakhs for the repair of damage at Courtallam.

राजस्थान में मेला देखने आने वाले विदेशी पर्यटक

821. **श्री शिव चरण सिंह :** क्या **नागर विमानन और पर्यटन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) राजस्थान के कौन-कौन से धार्मिक स्थलों पर मेले लगते हैं ;

(ख) किन-किन मेलों में कितने-कितने भारतीय और विदेशी पर्यटक आते हैं ;

(ग) किन-किन स्थानों पर राज्य और केन्द्रीय पर्यटन विभाग ने सुविधायें उपलब्ध कराई हैं और उपलब्ध कराई गई सुविधाओं का ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(घ) क्या यह सच है कि प्रति वर्ष लगभग 50 लाख तीर्थ यात्री करोली में कालिया देवी धार्मिक स्थल की यात्रा करते हैं; और

(ङ) वहां पर तीर्थ यात्रियों के लिए केन्द्रीय और राज्य पर्यटन विभागों ने क्या-क्या सुविधायें उपलब्ध कराई हैं ?

नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री गुलाम नबी आजाद) : (क) राजस्थान में धार्मिक महत्व के ऐसे अनेक स्थान हैं जहां मेले आयोजित किए जाते हैं जिनमें से महत्वपूर्ण हैं अजमेर, करौली, देशनोक, रामदेवरा, गोगानेड़ी और कोलायत ।

(ख) इन मेलों को देखने के लिए स्वदेशी और विदेशी दोनों प्रकार के पर्यटक बड़ी संख्या में आते हैं । चूंकि इन स्थानों में प्रवेश करने के लिए एक प्रवेश द्वार नहीं है, इसलिए यात्रियों की संख्या का अनुमान लगाना संभव नहीं है ।

(ग) धार्मिक महत्व के स्थानों पर सुविधाओं की व्यवस्था करना मुख्यत: राज्य सरकारों की जिम्मेवारी है, तथापि केन्द्रीय पर्यटन विभाग राज्य सरकारों से विशिष्ट प्रस्तावों के प्राप्त होने पर और धन की उपलब्धता होने पर पर्यटक सुविधाओं में वृद्धि करने के लिए राज्य सरकारों को कुछ सहायता देता है । केन्द्रीय पर्यटन विभाग ने अजमेर में जन-सुविधाओं और तीर्थ यात्री शैडों के लिए सहायता उपलब्ध कराई है ।

(घ) जी, हां । करोली के पवित्र स्थान को देखने के लिए भारी संख्या में यात्री जाते हैं ।

(ङ) इस पवित्र स्थान पर जाने वाले यात्रियों के लिए अनेक सुविधायें स्थानीय प्राधिकारियों ने मुहैया कराई हैं । तथापि, केन्द्रीय राज्य पर्यटन विभागों ने इसके लिए कोई सुविधा उपलब्ध नहीं कराई है ।

Shifting of Air India offices to New building at Nagpur

822. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in Nagpur the Indian Airlines has shifted its office in new building whereas Air India has not yet shifted to this new building where all arrangements for Air India offices are complete;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is no computer facility available in old building and the Air India business has suffered;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for non-shifting of Air India's office to new building; and

(d) by when Air India Office will shift to the new building?